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**PATENT**

Atty. Docket No. 2821 (203-3253)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Martinek et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.: 10/774,828

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: February 9, 2004

Dated: September 15, 2004

For: **INSTRUMENT KIT AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING  
MENISCAL REPAIR**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the cited U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not provided pursuant to the waiver of this requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 for national applications filed after June 30, 2003.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: September 15, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Francesco Sardone

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).

☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))

☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

**TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to  
patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francesco Sardone', is written over the typed name.

Francesco Sardone

Reg. No. 47,918

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FS:td

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Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 203-3253		SERIAL NO. 10/774,828	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S): Martinek et al.			
				FILING DATE February 9, 2004		GROUP ART UNIT Not Yet Assigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,635,637	1/13/87	Schreiber			
		5,002,562	3/26/91	Oberlander			
		5,037,422	8/6/91	Hayhurst et al.			
		5,059,206	10/22/91	Winters			
		5,100,417	3/31/92	Cerier et al.			
		5,102,421	4/7/92	Anspach, Jr.			
		5,114,065	5/19/92	Storace			
		5,141,520	8/25/92	Goble et al.			
		5,152,765	10/6/92	Ross et al.			
		5,154,189	10/13/92	Oberlander			
		5,161,725	11/10/92	Murray et al.			
		5,192,288	3/9/93	Thompson et al.			
		5,203,784	4/20/93	Ross et al.			
		5,220,928	6/22/93	Oddsens et al.			
		5,224,946	7/6/93	Hayhurst et al.			
		5,236,431	8/17/93	Gogolewski et al.			
		5,257,713	11/2/93	Green et al.			
		5,258,010	11/2/93	Green et al.			
		5,258,016	11/2/93	DiPoto et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 203-3253		SERIAL NO. 10/774,828		
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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,261,914	11/16/93	Warren				
		5,285,010	2/8/94	Huber				
		5,328,077	7/12/94	Lou				
		5,364,400	11/15/94	Rego, Jr. et al.				
		5,370,662	12/6/94	Stone et al.				
		5,423,471	6/13/95	Mastri et al.				
		5,467,786	11/21/95	Allen et al.				
		5,635,637	6/3/97	Boult et al.				
		5,702,462	12/30/97	Oberlander				
		5,842,477	12/1/98	Naughton et al.				
		5,928,252	7/27/99	Steadman et al.				
		5,954,747	9/21/99	Clark				
		5,997,552	12/7/99	Person et al.				
		6,056,778	5/2/00	Grafton et al.				
		2002/0002374	1/3/02	Barreiro et al.				
		6,666,872	12/23/03	Barreiro et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED			
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